July 2012

Bulova Byline

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You could say that June came in like a lamb and remained lamblike - until its rather explosive exit the night of Friday June 29th. The storm event we experienced last weekend was something called a Derecho ("deh-REY-cho"), Spanish for "straight." Its tornado-like ferocity was unexpected and resulted in two deaths, a great deal of damage due to downed trees, and the biggest power outage Dominion Virginia Power has ever experienced. For the first time in anyone's memory, the State and Region-wide Verizon 9-1-1 emergency network went down and/or was functionally compromised for several days. I plan to bring this issue to my fellow elected leaders at the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.

Earlier this week I sent you a Special Storm-related Byline with information about the storm and its aftermath. I hope you have signed up for the County's CEAN (Community Emergency Alert Network – www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean) which provides you with timely emergency updates. CEAN also provides links to important information such as: location for cooling opportunities, emergency numbers to call for utilities, trash and other assistance. Additionally, you can friend Fairfax County on Facebook (www.facebook.com/fairfaxcounty), follow us on Twitter (@SharonBulova or @FairfaxCounty) and emergency blog updates (http://fairfaxcountyemergency.wordpress.com/). Lastly, a battery powered radio will keep you informed no matter what else goes down.

During the lamblike part of June, many of you attended my three part series, **Evolution of Fairfax**. This was a fascinating look back and look ahead at Fairfax – how we grew from a rural county of dairy farms into our present day neighborhoods and commercial areas. The Future session ended the series with a stimulating discussion of what our future could be, and how we can prepare for the future we want. You can watch all or parts of the series through video on demand by going to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/evolution.htm. Additionally, cable Channel 16 will be broadcasting the series on the following days:

- Part I (The Past) will air Thursday, July 5 at 8 p.m.
- Part II (The Present) will air Monday, July 9 at 8 p.m.
- Part III (The Future) will air Wednesday, July 11; Monday, July 16; and Friday, July 20 at 8 p.m.

Also in June, Task Force Chairman Leo Schefer and I worked to finish up recommendations of our Private Sector Energy Task Force. Once the report has been finalized I will share it in an upcoming Byline. The interim report was

presented to the Board of Supervisors last fall and can be viewed on my website at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/energytaskforce.htm.

See inside this Byline for updates on the 495 Express (HOT) Lane Project. A similar project on I-95 will break ground this summer.

As my staff and I assembled this edition of the Byline, Loudoun County voted to opt in on the Dulles Rail Project. I'm very pleased that we will have Loudoun as our partner in this critical transportation project. Their positive vote gives us the green light to move ahead with extending the new Silver Line from Wiehle Avenue in Reston to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun.

Once Derecho clean-up and recovery is behind us, I hope you enjoy your summer. There is no shortage of park and recreational opportunities for you to choose from.

Sincerely,

Sharon Bulova – Chairman, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors

PatriARTic Celebration July 7 at the Workhouse Arts Center

Join the Workhouse community for a FREE patriotic celebration all day on July 7, 2012.

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The festivities start with the 4th Annual Ice Cream Social from 12-4pm. Purchase a handmade bowl created by one of their ceramics artists for \$15 and get free ice cream! Proceeds from the sale of bowls benefit the Workhouse Ceramics Program. The fun-filled afternoon will feature pony rides, a visit by Fairfax County Fire Station #441 and a performance by local band State of Mind.

Later in the day, Art Out Loud 2012 will feature an all-star cast of artists and musicians celebrating the impact of art on our daily lives. From 4-9pm, dozens of artists will be on hand to present and discuss their latest artistic creations. The Art Monkeys (Workhouse artists Mary Gallagher Stout and John Gascot) will be providing live painting demonstrations during the event. Live music will be provided

by an eclectic musical roundup including: "Thrive," "Starryville," "Big Green Cherry" and "Shade Parade." Food and beverages to include soft drinks, beer and wine will also be available for sale. Suggested donation for this event is \$5.

In the evening, you won't want to miss Mount Vernon Nights featuring a cappella group, "Cartoon Johnny" at 7pm.

All day long, wander through the Workhouse studios and galleries to meet over 70 of the region's finest artists, see them work, ask what inspires them and buy some fantastic pieces. Be sure to see one of their finest new exhibitions "Painting at the Workhouse" in the McGuireWoods Gallery.

This Workhouse is located at 9601 Ox Road Lorton, VA 22079 – 703-584-2900.

Emergency Information – Please Keep This Page

Sign up for emergency alerts.

Emergency Information Blog (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/blog)

Facebook (www.facebook.com/fairfaxcounty),

Twitter (www.twitter.com/fairfaxcounty)

Community Emergency Alert Network (CEAN) at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cean or by calling the Fairfax County Emergency Information Hotline at 703-817-7771, TTY 711*.

*Please note that some county phone numbers are still not operational.

** Please only call 9-1-1 for emergencies. Call your local utility (below) to report power outages.

For updates from around the region, visit http://www.capitalregionupdates.gov.

News from the Commonwealth: http://virginiaderecho.tumblr.com/

Important Phone Numbers.

Public Safety Non-Emergency

703-691-2131, TTY 703-204-2264

Fairfax County Main Phone Number

703-FAIRFAX (703-324-7329), TTY 711 (Weekdays, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Fairfax County Emergency Information Line

703-817-7771, TTY 711

Poison Control

1-800-222-1222, TTY 711

Washington Gas: 1-800-752-7520 or 703-750-1400, TTY 711

Columbia Gas: 1-800-544-5606, TTY 1-800-231-3238

Dominion Virginia Power outages and downed wires: 1-866-DOM-HELP (1-866-366-4357), TTY 711; view

outage map

NOVEC (Northern Virginia Electric Cooperative) outages and downed wires: 1-888-335-0500 or 703-335-

0500, TTY 711; view outage reports

BGE outages: 877-778-2222; downed wires: 800-685-0123; view outage map

Pepco outages: 1-877-737-2662; downed wires: 202-872-2369; view outage map

Fairfax Water at 703-698-5800, TTY 703-698-7025. After hours, call 703-698-5613, TTY 711

Urgent Human Services Needs?

Call 703-222-0880 TTY 711.

Fairfax County Heat Relief Options

Come in, cool off, charge your mobile device.

Many County RECenters and Libraries are open

- **Library** hours may be affected; call your local branch before visiting. For branch phone numbers, call 703-324-3100 or go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library.
- **RECenter** and Park information: 703-324-8661

Road Conditions

For more information on road conditions and real-time traffic information, go to www.511Virginia.org. To report a road problem, call VDOT's Customer Service Center at 1-800-367-7623.

ReadyNova.com Helps You Develop an Emergency Plan

ReadyNova.com was designed to assist residents and businesses in the Northern Virginia region in developing a Family Preparedness Planner or a Business Preparedness Planner, both of which follow basic and accepted emergency management practices.

The Family Preparedness Planner provides an easy to use tool for families in Fairfax County to develop their emergency plan, a family communications plan, and guidelines for developing their emergency survival kit.

The **Business Preparedness Planner** provides a detailed process for Fairfax County businesses to develop their emergency plan, including continuity of operations, communications plans and to identify the process for return to their facility after a disaster event.

Both the Family Preparedness Planner and the Business Preparedness Planner are user-friendly applications that meet ADA requirements for accessibility.

Additionally, user privacy is guaranteed: no personal or business information is saved by the website or either Planner application.

This website and the preparedness planners were developed with an Urban Area Security Initiative award of the Northern Virginia Emergency Response System with project oversight provided by **Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management** on behalf of Northern Virginia emergency management organizations and partners.



Beat the Heat with the Cooling Assistance and Fan Care Programs

Fairfax County residents who meet eligibility requirements may be able to receive help through the Cooling Assistance program to gain relief from the summer heat. This federally funded program helps low-income households that have at least one person considered vulnerable to heat: a child under six, a disabled individual, or an adult age 60 or older.

Types of assistance include payment of electric bills or security deposits to operate cooling equipment, repair of a central air conditioning system, and purchase of fans or window air conditioner units.

Applications for the Cooling Assistance program are being accepted between now and

August 15th. Call the Fairfax County Department of Family Services at 703-787-3100 to request an application or visit http://www.dss.virginia.gov/benefit/ea/index.cgi Residents over the age of 60 who need a fan to prevent health problems and also meet income eligibility requirements may also participate in the Fan Care program.

This program, operated by the Virginia Department of Aging and sponsored by Dominion Virginia Power, provides free fans and window air conditioning units to eligible seniors. To request an application, call the Fairfax County's Department of Family Services – Fairfax Area Agency on Aging at 703-324-7694, TTY 703-449-1186.

Fairfax County Launches Energy Action Fairfax

The way we use energy – and the associated cost – can be easy to overlook until we experience a service interruption like the one the region is still recovering from. However, many county residents spend at least \$100 to \$200 a month on electricity, heating and cooling. By taking steps to become more energy efficient, you can keep the energy you paid for where it belongs — inside your home. Saving energy use in your home is also an opportunity to help the environment.

Energy Action Fairfax is a new program designed to bring information about energy saving opportunities neighborhoods to throughout the county. program is The supported by this website. http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/energyactionfairf ax/, which contains a wealth of information on steps residents can take to conserve energy and save on their utility bills.

Some residents have already taken steps to make their homes more efficient but most of us still have opportunities to improve the efficiency of our homes. The Energy Action Fairfax site offers easy first steps and behavior changes, like replacing incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent lights or engaging energy saving modes on electronics when they are not in use, as well as investments like getting a home energy audit from a professional or installing extra insulation. The site also features a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) on many common energy-saving techniques.

I hope you will take time to visit this site. Many of the strategies it covers will not only save you money on your utility bills, but they will make your home quieter and more comfortable. Please check back periodically, this site will be updated regularly with additional resources.

Civil War Events, Commemorations Happening in July

Bull Run Round Table Meeting Lecture

July 12, 7pm

14200 St. Germain Dri

Alexandria, VA

Phone: (703) 830-2223

Admission: FREE

Drive, Centreville,

Click here for a complete list of events happening in and around Fairfax County

Title "Second Manassas: Longstreet's Attack and the Struggle for Chinn Ridge" Speaker; Mr. Scott Patchen Noted Author and Historian.

The 97th Regimental String Band Performance

Jul 22, 7:30pm

Frying Pan Farm Park Visitor Center 2739 West Ox Road, Herndon, VA

Phone: (703) 437-1794 Admission: \$10 per person

Enjoy the music played just like it was 150 years ago when it brought comfort and cheer to soldiers of both armies. Space is limited call to reserve your space.

Anguish and Freedom: The Yankees Descend upon Culpeper

Jul 21, 8:30am-12:30pm

The Daniel Center at Germanna Comm. College 18121 Technology Drive, Culpeper, VA

Phone: (540) 547-2395

Admission: \$50 (includes lunch and snacks)
Three presentations will address the topics
relevant to the summer of 1862 including Lincoln's
policies, military shifts, General Pope's arrival in
Culpeper, the looming question of emancipation
and slave refugees and ultimately the impact on
Culpeper.

Moderator: Clark B. Hall

Speakers: Daniel Sutherland, PhD, author of 13 books incl. Seasons of War: The Ordeal of a Confederate Community, John Hennessy, Chief Historian for the Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania Natl. Park, James Bryant, PhD, author and professor of history at Shenandoah University

2012 Elections: Satellite Voting

Satellite absentee voting will be available for the General Election this fall beginning Wednesday, October 17th and ending on Saturday, November 3rd. All satellite sites will be open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. week days and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the three Saturdays preceding Election Day (October 20, October 27 and November 3). Please note that locations changed have renovations: Dolley Madison Library McLean will replace the McLean Governmental Center; the North County Human Services Building in Reston, will replace the North County Governmental

Center. The Franconia Governmental Center in Alexandria, the Mason Governmental Center in Annandale, the Mount Vernon Governmental Center in Alexandria, the West Springfield Governmental Center in Springfield, and the Sully District Governmental Center in Chantilly will all continue to host satellite voting for this election cycle.

Please contact the Office of Elections at 703-324-4735 or <u>elect@fairfaxcounty.gov</u> if you have questions about satellite voting or other issues related to upcoming elections.

2012 Elections: Bond Referenda

On November 6, Fairfax County voters will decide whether to approve three bond referenda, totaling \$155 million, to provide funding for improvements and renovations to our County's parks and park facilities, public safety facilities, and libraries.

The Parks and Parks Facilities bond referendum, at a total of \$75 million, would allocate \$63 million in funding needed over the next 10 years for acquisition of park property and to renovate aging park facilities and infrastructure. Twelve-million-dollars would support Fairfax County's contribution to the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority's capital budget for an additional four years.

The **Public Safety bonds**, at a total of \$55 million, would include \$35 million to renovate the Bailey's Crossroads, Jefferson, and Herndon fire stations, all three of which are aging facilities that need replacement of major building subsystems. In addition, \$20 million in bond funding would be used to renovate 22

courtrooms at the Jennings Judicial Center, in order to enhance their efficiency and keep these courtrooms operational.

The **Libraries bonds**, totaling \$25 million, would be used to renovate the Pohick Regional Library, John Marshall Community Library, Tysons Pimmit Regional Library, and Reston Regional Library. These four buildings, built between 1974 and 1986, are in need of renovation in order to prolong the life of the buildings and continue to meet the needs of our community.

In October, the County will deliver an informational pamphlet on the three bond referenda to all Fairfax County households. This pamphlet will describe the intended use of the bond funds and offer information on bond financing, the cost of borrowing, and other financial information. In addition, both English and non-English language versions of the pamphlet will be posted on our County website and distributed at County facilities.

July 4 Events

Due to storm-related power outages, please call the number listed if you plan on attending an event.

Lake Fairfax

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/lakefairfax/fireworks.htm

Come join the festivities at Lake Fairfax Park on Wednesday, July 4, 2012 as the nation celebrates Independence Day! Park grounds open at 7 a.m. so bring your family for a full day of fun! No rain date or alcoholic beverages allowed.

You'll find lots to do. The Water Mine Family Swimmin' Hole will be open from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m. There will be a variety of vendors located near the park main office and offering a tasty variety of foods and desert treats. The carousel and marina attractions will be available as well from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. You can enjoy pony rides and a small petting zoo from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Kids will enjoy a free puppet show from 6 to 8 p.m. Lake Fairfax is located at 1400 Lake Fairfax Drive in Reston. VA. For more information call 703-471-5415.

An American Celebration at Mount Vernon

Jul 4, George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate & Gardens

Address: 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway,

Mount Vernon, VA

Times: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Phone: (703) 780-2000

Admission: Included in regular Estate admission: adults, \$15.00; children ages 6-11, \$7.00; and children under 5 are admitted free.

Historic Mount Vernon, the home of George Washington, salutes our first commander-in-chief with a dazzling display of made-for-daytime fireworks during its annual Independence Day event! Visitors will be treated to spectacular smoke fireworks in patriotic colors fired over the Potomac River.

Workhouse Fireworks Saturday, July 7, 2012 - 9:00pm

The Workhouse Arts Center will present a patriotic fireworks show on Saturday, July 7 at 9pm! Bring your family, friends, blankets and lawn chairs and come watch as the colors light up the sky!



Summer Entertainment Series (703-324-SHOW)

Thursday, July 05, 2012 - 7:30pm **Seldom Scene** (Bluegrass) at Nottoway Park

Saturday, July 07, 2012 – 10am **The Great Zucchini** (children show) at E.C.

Lawrence Park Amphitheater

Friday, July 13, 2012 - 7:30pm **John Jorgenson Quintet** (Gypsy Jazz) at Mason District Park Amphitheater

Wednesday, July 18, 2012 - 7:30pm **Ryan Montbleau Band** (R&B/Pop) at Lee District Park Amphitheater

Thursday, July 19, 2012 - 7:30pm **John McCutcheon** at (Folk) Frying Pan Farm Park

Saturday, July 21, 2012 – 10am **The Grandsons, Jr.** (children songs/music) at Burke Lake Park Amphitheater

495 Express Lanes Set to Open End of 2012

Construction on the Capital Beltway has been unavoidable in the last few years for drivers and residents in Fairfax County. But relief is coming! The **495 Express Lanes** are scheduled to open at the end of 2012. The 495 Express Lanes will be easy to use, but drivers need to take steps before the lanes open to make sure they're ready to take advantage of the faster, more predictable trip on the Beltway.



The 495 Express Lanes, formerly the HOT Lanes, run down the center of I-495 in Fairfax County beginning at the Springfield Interchange and ending just north of the Dulles Toll Road. There will be two high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes in each direction. **Those with three or more in their vehicle**, driving a motorcycle or riding a bus can travel for free in the lanes. **Drivers traveling alone** or with one other person can pay a toll to access the lanes.

Tolls for the Express Lanes will be dynamic, meaning they will change periodically based on real-time traffic conditions to keep the lanes free flowing. Toll rates will be displayed on electronic message signs in advance of each entrance to the Express Lanes and drivers will have ample time to decide

whether to take the Express Lanes or use the regular Beltway lanes.



Westpark Drive Bridge ribbon cutting

There will be several opportunities to access the Express Lanes. Drivers already traveling on the Beltway can enter just north of the Dulles Toll Road to head south or just south of Braddock Road to head north. There are also several entry and exit points to and from other highways and major side routes such as Route 267, I-66, and new access points at Route 29, Westpark Drive and Jones Branch Drive.

Everyone needs an E-ZPass® to use the 495 Express Lanes, except motorcyclists. There will be no option to pay cash. Both the standard E-ZPass and the new E-ZPass® FlexSM (available July 2012) can be used to pay tolls on the Express Lanes. There will unfortunately be a \$1

The E-ZPass Flex allows drivers to select toll-paying or HOV mode by sliding a switch on the bottom of the

device. The Flex can be used to pay tolls on any facility that accepts E-ZPass, regardless of the position of the switch. Carpoolers who want to travel for free on the Express Lanes need three passengers and an E-ZPass Flex set to HOV-mode before they enter the lanes.

monthly fee, a fee that the Board of Supervisors is on record opposing.

Toll-paying drivers can use a regular E-ZPass or the new E-ZPass Flex set to toll-paying mode to pay their toll electronically at highway speed. Visit www.ezpassva.com to get an E-ZPass or E-ZPass Flex today. For more information about the 495 Express Lanes, visit www.495ExpressLanes.com.

